

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14-21 remain in this application. Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form, and minor formal changes not affecting the scope of any claim element have been made to Claims 1 and 20. Claims 13 and 22, the only rejected claims, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. In addition, a typographical error in the specification has been corrected, and the abstract has been amended as to formal matters. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-12 and the indication that Claims 14-21 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. Since the latter claims have been so rewritten, they are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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